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meant to be the basis from the beginning, nothing would have been easier than to say so; if it was not, then it was absolutely honorable, right and proper for any man to avail himself of the retiring allowance offered him without reference to any question of disability. If an error was made in the first place, rectify it by all means; but first stand by the consequences of your error, to the extent demanded by the ordinary standards of honorable conduct between man and man. An absolutely essential requirement of a properly constituted university pension system is that it shall not place upon the professor any sense of obligation other than what is inevitable and inherent in such a system; he must feel that he has earned his pension, just as he has earned his salary, by his past services. If to retire under a pension is to mean to retire under a censorship, the Carnegie Foundation may conduce to the material comfort, but will certainly not conduce to the dignity or the self-respect of the profession of university teaching. And, to come back to the main point, the homely obligation of fulfilling in a reasonable measure substantial expectations that have been raised by one's own declared intentions is a duty antecedent even to the high purposes to which the Carnegie Foundation is dedicated.—*New York Evening Post.*

#### SPECIAL ARTICLES

##### DIPYLDIUM CANINUM IN AN AMERICAN CHILD

IN May, 1909, Dr. Luzerne Coville, of Ithaca, submitted for examination egg packets and a segment of a parasitic worm which had been passed by a boy of eleven years. The segment, which had lain in water for some time, I did not recognize, and I am indebted to Dr. C. W. Stiles for the suggestion that the egg packets probably belonged to a tapeworm of the genus *Dipylidium*.

A short time later another segment, reddish-brown from the enclosed mature egg packets, was discharged and egg masses were found on toilet paper, appearing to casual inspection like blood stains. Careful examination proved them to be of the double-pored tapeworm of the dog, *Dipylidium caninum*. The standard

vermifuges were administered and for two days the stools were sieved without result. It is evident that but a single worm was present and that it was discharged before the somewhat delayed treatment was commenced.

*Dipylidium caninum* (more generally known as *Tænia canina* L., *T. cucumerina* Bl. or *T. elliptica* Batsch) is the commonest tapeworm of pet dogs and cats. At Copenhagen, Krabbe found 78 per cent. of the dogs and 60 per cent. of the cats infested. Ward,<sup>1</sup> 1895, states that it has been found in one fifth to four fifths of all the dogs examined by various European investigators and that it is hardly less common at Lincoln, Nebr.; I have found it common at Ithaca, though I have not made enough examinations to justify a statement in percentages.

On the other hand, it is only accidentally a parasite of man, and instances of its occurrence as such have been regarded as rare. First reported in 1751, by Dubois,<sup>2</sup> a student of Linneus, Zschokke,<sup>3</sup> in 1903, was able to bring together reports of thirty-four cases. All these were European, and Ward,<sup>4</sup> 1900, found no references to the occurrence of the parasite in man in this country. However, Stiles,<sup>5</sup> 1903, reports a case of infestation of a child sixteen months old, at Detroit. Blanchard,<sup>6</sup> 1907, in an exhaustive review of the subject, summarizes sixty cases, of which

<sup>1</sup> Ward, H. B., "The Parasitic Worms of Man and the Domestic Animals," Rept. Nebr. State Board Agr. for 1894, pp. 225-348.

<sup>2</sup> Dubois, G., "Tænia." *Linnæi Amænitates academice, Holmiae*, 1751, II., p. 59. (Cited by Blanchard, *Traité de zool. méd.*, I., p. 481, 1888.)

<sup>3</sup> Zschokke, F., "Ein neuer Fall von *Dipylidium caninum* (L.) beim Menschen," *Centralbl. f. Bakt.*, etc., I. Abt., Originale, XXXIV., pp. 42-43, 1903.

<sup>4</sup> Ward, H. B., article "Cestoda," "Reference Handbook of the Medical Sciences," II., pp. 779-794, 1900.

<sup>5</sup> Stiles, C. W., "A Case of Infection with the Double-pored Dog Tapeworm (*Dipylidium caninum*) in an American Child," *Amer. Medicine*, V., pp. 65-66, 1903.

<sup>6</sup> Blanchard, R., "Parasitisme du *Dipylidium caninum* dans l'espèce humaine, à propos d'un cas nouveau," *Archiv. de Parasit.*, XI., pp. 439-471.

the only American is the case reported by Stiles. Since Blanchard's paper appeared, he has reported one new case at Paris, while one has been reported by Francaviglia for Italy, making a total of sixty-two reported cases. While, therefore, *Dipylidium caninum* can hardly be regarded as a rare parasite of man, Dr. Coville's case is worthy of record as occurring in this country.

From the view-point of the student of the relation of insects to disease, these cases are of interest because the intermediate hosts of this tapeworm are the dog louse, *Trichodectes canis*, and the flea, *Ctenocephalus canis*. Infestation can not take place directly from swallowing the eggs of the parasite, any more than in the case of other typical tapeworms, but only through ingestion of the infested insect. The dog normally becomes infested by biting the flea or louse. Man may accidentally ingest one of the insects and the parasites are able to complete their development in the unusual host.

This accounts for the fact that the great majority of cases reported are of young children, whose association with dogs and cats is more intimate, and who are likely to scrutinize less closely articles of food or drink. From Blanchard's summary, it appears that about 77 per cent. of the reported cases are of children under three years of age. Six are of adults and, counting Dr. Coville's case, three are of children between the ages of nine and twenty years. In the one under consideration, the boy's constant playmate was a bull terrier which was afterwards found to harbor the *Dipylidium*.

Wm. A. RILEY

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ANTHROPOLOGY AT THE BOSTON MEETING,  
WITH PROCEEDINGS OF SECTION H

As was the case a year ago, the American Anthropological Association and the American Folk-Lore Society met in affiliation with Section H of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The sessions which began on December 27 and lasted till noon on December 30 were held in the Engineering Building of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The attendance was better than a year ago and a number of important papers were presented. Professor William H.

Holmes was present as vice-president of Section H and president of the American Anthropological Association, while Dr. John R. Swanton presided over the single session in charge of the American Folk-Lore Society.

#### SECTION H

Officers for the Boston meeting were nominated as follows: Member of the council, Professor Franz Boas; member of the general committee, Dr. Charles Peabody. Sectional offices were filled by the nomination of Professor Roland B. Dixon, Cambridge, Mass., as vice-president for the ensuing year; and Professor Geo. B. Gordon, member of the sectional committee to serve five years. In accordance with a change in the constitution enlarging the sectional committee, the section recommended to the council that the American Anthropological Association, the American Folk-Lore Society and the American Psychological Association be designated as societies suitable for affiliation with Section H.

#### Addresses and Papers

The address of Professor R. S. Woodworth, retiring vice-president of Section H, entitled "Racial Differences and Mental Traits," was published in SCIENCE on February 4. It was followed by an important discussion on related topics such as: brain weight in relation to race, intelligence and the finer structure of the brain; and the relative influences of heredity and environment, in which Professors H. H. Donaldson, Frederic Adams Woods, E. E. Southard, Franz Boas and J. McK. Cattell took part. The address of Dr. John R. Swanton, president of the American Folk-Lore Society, on "Some Practical Aspects of the Study of Myths," will be published in the *Folk-Lore Journal*.

Most of the papers read at the joint meeting are represented in this report by abstracts. These are:

#### Some Fundamental Characteristics of the Ute Language: Dr. EDWARD SAPIR.

The Ute language, originally spoken in much of Colorado and Utah, forms the easternmost dialect of the Ute-Chemehuevi subgroup, according to Kroeber's classification, of the plateau branch of the Shoshonean linguistic stock. It is itself spoken in at least two slightly different dialects, which may be termed Uintah and Uncompahgre Ute. The phonetics of Ute are only superficially easy, actually they are characterized by many subtleties. The consonantal system in its original form can, by internal evidence, be re-